



Public Power

AN AMERICAN TRADITION THAT WORKS®

#PublicPowerWeek • October 4-10, 2015

Along with over 2000 other Community Owned Public Power Utilities, the Grand Haven Board of Light & Power is celebrating **PUBLIC POWER WEEK**, October 4-10, 2015. These 2000 plus community owned electric utilities provide electricity to 21.4 million electric customers (1 in 7 of all US customers).

“Public Power Week gives us a chance to emphasize the advantages of a community owned, locally controlled electric utility,” said David Walters, General Manager of the BLP.

The BLP owns two electric generating facilities, six substations, and approximately 220 miles of electric distribution lines. We employ 70 dedicated people in a variety of skilled utility jobs.

To help celebrate public power with our customers, you may pick up a **FREE Bag of Popcorn and a CFL Key Chain.** They will be available Monday-Friday, October 5-9, 2015, at our Service Center, 1700 Eaton Drive, Grand Haven. **FREE Lineman puzzles will be given away to the first 300 little visitors ages 2-5.**



Sign up for our online bill payment system called **eSource**, a quick and easy way to make your payment. **Go to ghblp.org**



Come visit our booth at local fire stations during **Fire Prevention Week** **October 4-10, 2015**

We will be giving away **FREE Halloween Safety Bags, and more fun electrical safety giveaways!**



Grand Haven Township – Tuesday, October 6, 2015
Spring Lake Township – Thursday, October 8, 2015
City of Grand Haven – Saturday, October 10, 2015
Ferrysburg – Monday, October 12, 2015



Created in 1896, the Board of Light & Power is one of more than 2,000 community-owned electric utilities serving homes and businesses across the United States. We are locally-controlled by a five-member Board of Directors elected by Grand Haven residents with approximately 13,750 customers in the greater Grand Haven area.

Your Board of Directors:

Jack Smart, Chairperson

Gerald Witherell, Vice Chairperson

Larry Kieft, Director

John Naser, Director

Jim VanderMolen, Director



PLUGGED IN is a publication of the Grand Haven Board of Light & Power. Questions and comments may be submitted to our **Customer Service Department at:**

1700 Eaton Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417

p 616.846.6250 | f 616.846.3114

Emergency: 616.842.2241 | E-Mail: blpservice@ghblp.org

Pay your bill online - visit ghblp.org

PLUGGED IN

News and Information from your Community-Owned Electric Utility
Grand Haven Board of Light & Power

September & October 2015



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GRAND HAVEN BOARD OF LIGHT & POWER

ghblp.org

Community-Owned. Locally Controlled.
Not-for-Profit. Environmentally Responsible.

EPA Finalizes Clean Power Plan



On August 3, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its final **Clean Power Plan (CPP)** to reduce Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions from **existing fossil-fueled power plants**. Fossil fuels include petroleum, coal, and natural gas. CO₂ is a "greenhouse gas" identified by the EPA as a contributor to Global Climate Change and is produced by the combustion of fossil-fuels.

The Board of Light and Power generating facilities are subject to regulation under the CPP.

The EPA's plan, issued under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act, assigns each state CO₂ emissions reduction requirements that must be achieved by 2030. Each state will look at the following three building blocks to establish a plan for meeting these requirements:

- **Building Block 1** – Improve the efficiency (i.e. heat rates) of existing coal-fired power plants
- **Building Block 2** – Substitute existing natural gas generation for existing coal generation
- **Building Block 3** – Substitute renewable generation for existing coal generation

The EPA calculated the final 2030 compliance limits for each state based on that state's initial 2012 generation mix, and additionally set interim guidelines over the period from 2022 - 2029. Now that the EPA has set these directives, each state must submit to the EPA their implementation plan to comply with the CPP by September 6, 2016, or seek an extension. If a state does not submit an approvable plan, the EPA will implement a federally developed plan for that State. The CPP also gives States various options to pursue collaborations across state lines.

This rule is guaranteed to lead to legal challenges and potentially may prompt further congressional action. Fifteen states have already filed an emergency motion for stay in the D.C. Circuit.

Source: Spiegel & McDiarmid LLP; www.spiegelmc.com



College Dorm Room Essential: *Safety*

U.S. fire departments responded to an annual average of

3,810
college housing fires



Research collected from the National Fire Protection Association

Furnishing a college dorm room comes with a lot of options for personalization — from bedding and décor to kitchen supplies and electronics. One essential for the college residence is safety.

Grand Haven Board of Light & Power offers the following safety tips for college students to help reduce the risk of electrical fires in their student housing:

- Avoid overloading extension cords, power strips, or outlets.
- If the use of an appliance frequently causes power to trip off, or if its power cord or the outlet feels hot, the appliance should be disconnected immediately and the condition reported to the landlord or campus housing staff.
- Use the correct wattage light bulbs for lamps and fixtures. If no indication is on the product, do not use a bulb with more than 60 watts. Use cooler, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs or LED if possible).
- Keep all electrical appliances and cords safely away from bedding, curtains, papers, and other flammable material.
- Always use microwave-safe containers. Metal and aluminum foil can damage the microwave or start a fire. If the microwave is damaged in any way, do not use it.

Is renewable energy for you?



A challenge arises when people who have an interest in renewable energy purchase equipment before doing any research or evaluation. Without proper research, you could purchase an expensive piece of equipment that you are unable to use to its fullest capabilities.

To help homeowners and small business operators make more well-informed decisions, the Energy Education Council has developed a checklist of questions and resources to take into consideration prior to installing a new renewable energy system.

The checklist can be found at EnergyEdCouncil.org/checklist.pdf

and includes goals, current energy usage, appropriate types of renewable systems, permitting process, system maintenance, and energy savings.